Unauthorised occupation of plots for slum dwellers

525. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of plots allotted by MCD and DDA for the rehabilitation of slum dwellers which have unauthorisedly been grabbed by unauthorised persons;

(b) if so, whether an inquiry has been made in the matter, particularly with reference to an involvement of MCD, DDA and other administrative staff of Delhi Administration; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the inquiry and the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that it has registered two cases relating to alleged scam in the allotment of resettlement plots to slum dwellers by MCD and DDA. In one case, charge-sheet has been filed on 5.11.2007 against four DDA officials, two ex-DDA officials, one official of Delhi Legislative Assembly and one private person. In the second case the matter is at investigation stage.

Procedure for selection for Arjuna Awards

526. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for recommendation/nomination of candidates eligible for the Arjuna Awards;

(b) the procedure followed after the nominations/recommendations have been made to select awardees;

(c) the reason for games like tennis and carom, not being enlisted in drawing awardees; and

(d) the steps taken to make the selection process more encompassing of other sports and also more transparent in its working?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The eligibility criteria for the Arjuna Awards includes consistently good performance for the previous three years at international level coupled with leadership and sportspersonship qualities. The award is considered in both Olympic and Non-Olympic disciplines, including indigenous games and sports for the physically challenged. Nominations for the award are invited from recognized National Sports Federations, the Indian Olympic Association, State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and Sports Control/Promotion Boards of various Government organizations such as Police, Army etc.

(b) The nominations received are duly scrutinized and eligible nominations are placed before an independent selection committee consisting of eminent sportspersons, including Olympians and past Arjuna Awardees, Government representatives and sports administrators. The Selection Committee determines its own work procedure and the selection is made by consensus failing which by a majority decision.

(c) and (d) While all disciplines including Tennis and Carom are considered for the award, the Selection Committee selects the awardees on the basis of their performance at major international events. Since ordinarily not more than 15 awards are given in a particular year, it is not possible to cover all sports disciplines every year. In the past, several Tennis players have been conferred Arjuna Awards such as S/Shri Ramnathan Krishnan, Jaideep Mukherjee, Vijay Amritraj, Ramesh